

### Coburn Amendment 2018- Repeal Gun Prohibition on Army Corps Land

Coburn Amendment 2018 would protect the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment rights of individuals on lands managed by the Army Corps of Engineers

#### The Right to Bear Arms must be extended to lands managed by the Corps of Engineers

- The Second Amendment of the Constitution provides that “the right of the people to keep and bear arms should not be infringed”
- Under current law, this fundamental right does not cover the 11.7 million acres managed by the Army Corps of Engineers
- After passage of Public Law 111-024 repealing the gun ban in National Parks and National Wildlife Refuge lands, the Corps of Engineers stated that the law “does not apply to Corps projects” and it will “continue to prohibit loaded concealed weapons on Corps properties regardless of the new law and notwithstanding any contrary provisions of state law”
- Congress must fix this legislatively, by passing this amendment to prohibit the Corps of Engineers from promulgating regulations banning firearms on Corps lands

#### This amendment will provide for consistency in gun laws across government jurisdictions

- This amendment would simply require the Corps of Engineers to follow state firearm possession laws on lands and waters managed by them –the same approach that the Bureau of Land Management(BLM), the Forest Service(FS) and, more recently, the National Park Service(NPS) and the National Wildlife Refuge use.
- This amendment would ensure that Americans do not unknowingly violate federal law when crossing into Corps lands, even when maintaining a legal permit issued their state
- Firearms policies at federal facilities, Army Corps headquarters, research facilities, or lock and dam buildings would not be affected by this amendment

#### The Constitutional rights of the 370 million annual visitors to Corps lands must be protected

- The Army Corps of Engineers manages 11.7 million acres with 422 lake and river projects with recreation, 95,000 campsites, 6,500 miles of trails, and 3,522 boat launches
- With more 370 million annual visitors, Corps projects are the most visited of any single federal agency’s sites, even more than the 280 million annual visitors to National Parks
- Americans that go to camp, hunt, or fish on these federally managed lands are prevented from exercising their constitutional right to bear arms
- This policy leaves law-abiding citizen’s vulnerable to both criminals and dangerous wildlife on Army Corps lands, and must be reversed